

ABSTRACT

Fastenings, including stretchy or flexible “zebra-like” and “leopard-like” appearing materials, are disclosed having spaced bands or a distribution islands of molded loop-engageable hooks or molded pre-forms for hooks, between which are bands or regions of different character. Molding is by rigid molds filled from the base region of the stems. In

5 embodiments, linear bands or islands of fastener elements are themselves inextensible in the direction of their extent and comprise multiple rows of fastener elements. For ease of forming a uniform, elastically stretchy or flexible product, the bands or islands of fastener elements extend in the machine direction during manufacture. Embodiments shown employ

10 a widthwise continuous carrier of uniform character to which multiple spaced bands or islands of hooks have their molded stems *in situ* bonded, and in other embodiments, overlapping margins of the bases of hook bands are *in situ* laminated to surface structure of adjacent bands of carrier using a laminating nip in which one of the rolls is a mold roll. For a preferred mode of manufacture of an elastically stretchy product, stretchy carrier material is

15 stretchy only in the widthwise (cross-machine) direction. In composite hook and loop fastener products, the bands or regions of material between adjacent bands or islands of hooks comprise loop-engageable material, that is uniform in construction widthwise, the loop-forming material itself being an elastically stretchable or a flexible component. In useful product categories, the hook bands or islands and intervening regions of material have

20 importantly different width ranges. Novel elastically stretchable and flexible loop-defining materials, and their methods of manufacture are shown. *In situ* lamination of hook, bands or islands on surfaces of materials held in a planar orientation or presenting a planar surface are also shown, flexible materials on tenter frames and rigid materials.